

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Gregory E. Sancoff et al.
Serial No.: 09/368,273
Filing Date: 08/03/99
Title: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT
AND METHOD OF USE
Group Art Unit: 3731
Examiner: G. Jackson
Attorney's Docket No.: ONUX-4

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 5, please insert:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Application

This is a continuation of pending prior application Serial No. 09/368,273 filed 08/03/99 by Gregory E. Sancoff, Frederic P. Field and Douglas A. Fog for SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE.

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